



Peace Operations Training Institute®
Study peace and humanitarian relief any place, any time



November 2023 Newsletter

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Fourth Instalment of the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) Webinar Series: Captain Cecilia Erzuah of Ghana, 2022 United Nations Military Gender Advocate of the Year

Captain Cecilia Erzuah has served with the Ghana Armed Forces since 2016. She has served on United Nations missions in Lebanon (UNIFIL, 2019–2020) and later in Abyei (UNISFA, 2022–2023), where she served as the Commander of the Ghanaian Engagement Platoon.

In this webinar, Captain Erzuah discusses her journey to military work and peace operations, examining her experiences along the way. She speaks as a military and peace operations professional but also as a woman in peace operations and an advocate for women in the

field. Captain Erzuah shares her views on how and why to increase the number of women who participate in peace operations. She also recounts some of the challenges she has personally faced while on mission and offers advice for those who wish to serve. POTI would like to thank Captain Erzuah for her time and thoughtfulness in responding to important questions for peace operations personnel — especially for women who might be considering a career in the field. The full webinar video is available at: <<https://www.peaceopstraining.org/videos/546/wps-erzuah/>>.

New Course on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in Partnership with the International Peace Institute

POTI has partnered with the International Peace Institute (IPI) on a new course, [*Sexual and Gender-Based Violence and International Peace and Security*](#), to educate peace operations personnel on topics and issues related to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) while clarifying the terminology, patterns, and impacts of this complex and pervasive form of violence. IPI course authors Dr. Phoebe Donnelly and Evyn Papworth discuss and disprove common assumptions about the victims/survivors, causes, and perpetrators of SGBV. Throughout the text, they draw on case studies as well as historical and contemporary events.

The course examines policies and approaches used by the United Nations and other actors in the multilateral system in an effort to prevent and respond to SGBV. It also examines approaches used in United Nations missions to inform the work of peace operations personnel. This course enriches the Institute's gender awareness offerings



and complements concepts explored in other POTI courses, including the 2023 update to [*Preventing Violence Against Women and Promoting Gender Equality in Peace Operations*](#).

Peace Operations Specialized Training (POST) Certificate

The Institute's POST Certificate programme allows students to demonstrate professional competency in one or more of the five available specializations. Students may specialize in Civilian Service, Gender Awareness, Human Rights, Military Studies, or Police Studies.

To earn a POST Certificate, students must enrol in and pass the End-of-Course Examination for three common core courses, two electives, and three courses in the specialization track. In addition, upon completion of all eight courses and exams, students must pass a Comprehensive Examination.

This unique opportunity allows students to gain breadth and depth of expertise while working at their own pace from anywhere around the world. Learn more about the POST Certificate and how to enrol here: <<https://www.peaceopstraining.org/post/>>.

Student-Course Author Q&A Video on Leadership in Peace Operations



Lieutenant General (Retired) Jasbir Lidder, author of the Institute's recent update to *Leading Within United Nations Peace Operations*, answers student questions and reflects upon crucial leadership principles in a short Q&A video. Watch it here: <https://youtu.be/kPx_C4_l9MY>.

The National Training Centre E-Learning Platform (NTCELP): A customizable, ready-made e-learning curriculum for national and regional peacekeeping training centres

POTI has been fortunate over the years to partner with organizations serving the peace operations community. The majority of these partnerships have been formed under the NTCELP programme, a customizable, ready-made e-learning platform built to serve national and regional peacekeeping training centres. POTI is proud to serve 54 centres through this programme in locations all over the world.

Under NTCELP, peacekeeping training centres offer a blended learning curriculum combining classroom courses with the Institute's e-learning. Centres incorporate POTI e-learning into their training in different ways, including as prerequisites and supplemental texts to classroom courses. POTI courses are designed to reduce in-person instruction time and allow personnel to study topics not available onsite. E-learning can occur at any time and place, during assigned periods as part of classroom instruction, or during off-duty hours.

Each partnering centre receives a custom web page that is fully maintained by POTI and features either a photo or a video welcome from the director or commandant of the centre. When students enrol through the centre and complete a course, they receive a dual-logo Certificate of Completion. Centre staff members also have the option to access an intranet where they are able to see who has enrolled through their centre, what courses their personnel are taking, and who has passed their End-of-Course Examinations.

International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC)

The Peace Operations Training Institute is pleased to partner with **International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC)** to provide e-learning on peace operations courses at no cost. POTI offers courses in English, French, Spanish, and Portuguese. Personnel from International Peace Support Training Centre may download all course materials, study their courses offline, take each self-scoring End-of-Lesson Quiz, and when they are ready, take the online End-of-Course Examination. Students who pass the examination with a minimum score of 75 per cent receive a Certificate of Completion for each course.

Use the following programme eligibility code when creating your student profile to request special training provided through our partnership with IPSTC: **IPSTC**

Having trouble finding where to input the programme eligibility code? Enter the code on the **profile page** in your student classroom after creating an account.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact POTI staff members by submitting a ticket through our **Help Desk** system.

Ready to commence your e-learning on peacekeeping?

SIGN UP

Our Thanks

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Canada, Kingdom of the Netherlands, United Kingdom

Example NTCELP web page.

So far in 2023, POTI has welcomed three new centres to the NTCELP programme: the Kenya Prisons Service (KPS), Ethiopian Police University (EPU), and Peace Support Operations Training Centre - Malawi (PSOTC - Malawi). POTI looks forward to working with these centres in the service of peace. The Institute welcomes interested centres to contact the Chief of Institutional Relations, Ms. Georgia Richardson, at grichardson@peaceopstraining.org to learn more.

Course Resource Spotlight: Quizlet, an Interactive Learning Platform

You are invited to explore the newly updated POTI Quizlet page. Test your knowledge on peace operations with intuitive learning exercises, including flashcards, practice tests, and matching games. Our page can be found here: <<https://quizlet.com/PeaceOpsTraining/sets>>.

The Quizlet link can also be found below Additional Resources on each enrolled course page in the Student Classroom. Though not available for all courses, this feature is being added to the full curriculum on a rolling basis. Resources are available in English, French, and Spanish.

United Nations	N.B.	non-international armed conflict	OHCHR
NIAC	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights	POW(s)	ICCPR
nota bene (but prefer "Note:")	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	UN	prisoner of war(s)

Example of a matching game from the set "International Humanitarian Law Acronyms and Concepts".

From the Desk of the Executive Director Ramona Taheri



As a new, dark chapter of conflict unfolds, we at POTI remain steadfast in our support of the peace operations community, especially the troop- and police-contributing countries that have deployed personnel in peace operations and offices in the Middle East. Each renewed bout of violence in the international sphere calls for upholding the same principles: human rights, international humanitarian law, the protection of civilians, child protection, and many more. Our curriculum aims to make these complex topics accessible to peace operations and humanitarian personnel around the world.

As always, we strive to serve those currently deployed as well as those hoping to deploy to a peace operation or humanitarian relief mission abroad. I encourage you to write to our Help Desk with suggestions for us, stories from your time on mission we can share with others, and information on how e-learning has supported your endeavours.

We strive to support the increasingly diverse peace operations space. In this effort, we are proud to announce the release of a new course on sexual and gender-based violence, released in partnership with the International Peace Institute. Special emphasis is placed on conflict-related sexual violence and violence committed by and against peace operations personnel.

Thank you for your support and dedication to knowledge on peace-related topics.

Our thanks to the founding member nations of the Partnership for E-Learning on Peace Operations (PELP) for providing the support that makes e-learning on peace operations possible.



Australia



Canada



Denmark



Kingdom of the Netherlands



Switzerland



United Kingdom

The Peace Operations Training Institute (POTI) is an independent nongovernmental organization (NGO) recognized by the United States Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit public charity based in Williamsburg, Virginia, USA.

Download the Peace Operations Training Institute mobile application



All the major features of the POTI online classroom are available. Internet connection typically required.

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Women in peace operations are a key to peace. POTI encourages women to enrol and study our courses.

